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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NECROLOGY

JULY, 1946

The Committee on Necrology regrets to report the death of several members of the Academy. The information for the accompanying biographical sketches has been kindly furnished by close friends of the members mentioned.

## WILLIAM MORTON BARROWS

On February 24, 1946, the Ohio State University lost one of its outstanding teachers by the death of Professor William Morton Barrows. He had been in ill health for two years and had voluntarily retired to the rank of Professor Emeritus on August 30, 1945.

Professor Barrows was born April 7, 1883, at Rochester, N. Y. He was the son of the late Professor Walter Barrows of Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich. In 1903 he graduated from Michigan State College with the degree of B. S. In 1905-1906 he attended Harvard and earned the degrees of B. S. and M. S. He returned to Harvard and received the D. Sc. degree in 1920. While a student in Cambridge he met Miss Eleanor S. Burton whom he married June 25, 1908. They had two sons, Dr. W. Morton Barrows, Jr., professor of physics in the University of Florida at Tallahassee, and Major Arthur B. Barrows of the U. S. Marines, who lost his life during the recent war.

From 1906 to 1907 Professor Barrows was professor of science in the North Manchester College, Indiana. From 1907 to 1909 he was instructor of zoology in the New Hampshire State College, Durham, N. H. In 1909 he joined the staff of the Ohio State University in the department of Zoology. In 1923 he gained the rank of professor. In 1929 he became supervisor of general zoology which position he held until his retirement.

Dr. Barrows was the author of *Science of Animal Life*, a text for high schools, and of numerous shorter papers on various phases of biological science. His special research was on the taxonomy of spiders in which field he became widely recognized as one of the few authorities. His library of spider literature and his collection of type forms, among the best of the world, are now in the possession of Ohio State University.

Among his most outstanding characteristics were a jovial personality, a keen wit, and the ability to induce his students to think clearly about their work.

## NEVIN M. FENNEMAN

The State of Ohio and the nation both lost one of their leading scientists through the death of Dr. Nevin M. Fenneman on July 4, 1945. Dr. Fenneman was born in Lima, Ohio, December 26, 1865. He was graduated from Heidelberg at Tiffin in 1883 with the degree of A. B. From that time until 1900 he taught in various secondary schools. In 1901 he received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Chicago. Following that he became Professor of Geology at the University of Colorado in 1902 and also joined the United States Geological Survey. From 1903 to 1907 he was Professor of Geology at the University of Wisconsin and also served as geologist on the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey. From 1906-1908 he was geologist with the Illinois Geological Survey. In 1907 he was called to the University of Cincinnati where he organized the Department of Geology and Geography. There, during the years he developed numerous geologists.

In addition to his other activities he served on the United States Geological Survey for over a quarter of a century. Among his outstanding contributions was a two-volume work on the Physiography of the United States. Among the offices held and the honors which came to him were the following: president of the American Association of Geologists, of the Yellowstone-Bighorn Research Association, and of the Geological Society of America; vice-president A. A. A. S. section for geology; representative of the United States at the Pan-Pacific Science Congress held in Tokyo; Gold Medalist Geographical Society of Chicago; honorary LL. D. from the University of Cincinnati. He was a member of Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, and the American Society of Naturalists.

One who knew him well wrote: "His stern teaching, his kindly, searching criticism, his keen encouragement and his own deep humility, all left their mark. He was the last of the great trio of American physiographers—Daves, Fenneman and Johnson."

## FRANCIS N. MAXFIELD

Francis N. Maxfield, professor of psychology at Ohio State University, died suddenly November 10th, 1945. He had been a member of the faculty since 1925. Born sixty-eight years ago in Sandwich, Massachusetts, he received his A. B. from Haverford in 1897 and his Ph. D.

from Pennsylvania in 1912. In the period between these degrees he taught at the secondary level. This was followed by six years on the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania, two years as psychologist in the Newark, New Jersey, Public Schools, and five years as director of special education for the state of Pennsylvania. At Ohio State his principal activities involved teaching courses dealing with deviates and with psychometrics, carrying a portion of the service load in the psychological clinic and providing liaison with outside agencies needing psychological help such as the Children's Hospital and local courts. His research interests dealt particularly with feral children and with children reared in isolation. His avocational interests centered around the bridge table and the flower garden. His influence will still be felt through the students who majored under his direction and in the numerous clients whose life adjustments benefited from his counsel.

Submitted for the Committee,  
FREDERICK H. KRECKER.

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